

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 49, 54 to 66, 72 to 74, and 77 to 80 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 17 being independent. Claims 2, 3, 9, 12 to 15, 24, 25, 39, 56 to 61, 66 and 72 have been amended herein.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during telephone conversations on July 23, 2004, and July 26, 2004. During those conversations, the Examiner agreed to enter the foregoing amendments to Claims 9, 14, 39, 56 and 57. Additional formal amendments have been made to ensure that the application issues in even better form, and are respectfully submitted not to entail a substantial amount of work on the part of the Patent and Trademark Office. MPEP § 714.16. Favorable consideration and entry hereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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